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SERVICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION
DISTRICT 1199 WV/KY/OH
CTW, CLC

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June 8, 2020

Matthew Damschroder, Director
Ohio Department of Administrative Services
30 E. Broad St., 40th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Mr. Damschroder,

We are in receipt of your letter dated June 1, 2020 regarding anticipated budget shortfall in the state of Ohio. Is this a request to start the bargaining process for a successor collective bargaining agreement, which expires in 2021 or is this a request for mid-term bargaining?

While it appears we share the goal of maintaining services to the citizens of the State of Ohio, there are many other options outside of an attack on the working women and men who tirelessly work for the State. State Employees should be applauded and lifted up for their fearless and valiant efforts standing on the frontlines. While the Governor is encouraging businesses to offer pay supplements and increased benefits to those essential Employees, the State attacks pay and benefits of its workers. Historically State Employees have given up much for the State of Ohio without truly a shared sacrifice from those at the top.

While we look forward to conversations about the best way to reduce cost, we will need and plan to request additional information on the State's cost-saving measures and other related documents to best facilitate those discussions.

Sincerely,

Becky Williams, President

cc: Josh Norris, Executive Vice President, SEIU 1199
Kristen Rankin, Deputy Director, Office of Collective Bargaining